

PATENTS

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicant(s):** Tsukasa Kobayashi, et al.

**Examiner:** Unassigned

JC979 U.S. PRO  
10/091894  
03/06/02

**Serial No:** To be assigned

**Art Unit:** Unassigned

**Filed:** Herewith

**Docket:** 15344

**For:** APPARATUS FOR LIGATING  
LIVING TISSUES

**Dated:** March 6, 2002

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**CLAIM OF PRIORITY**

Sir:

Applicants in the above-identified application hereby claim the right of priority in connection with Title 35 U.S.C. § 119 and in support thereof, will submit in due course certified copies of Japanese Patent Application Nos. 2001-063931 filed March 7, 2001 and 2001-321002 filed October 18, 2001.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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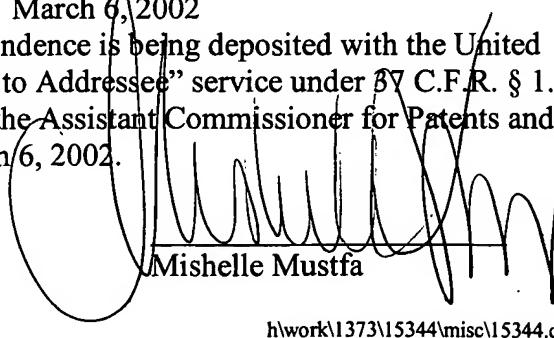
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Dated: March 6, 2002

  
Mishelle Mustfa